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INFO RUEHBW/AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY 0001  
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RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 8314  
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 2978  
RUEHPS/USOFFICE PRISTINA PRIORITY 0045  
RUEHKP/AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY 9275  
RUEHLH/AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY 5088  
RUEHPW/AMCONSUL PESHAWAR PRIORITY 3798  
RUMICEA/USCENTCOM INTEL CEN MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY  
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY 3745  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 001131

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SUBJECT: PAKISTAN CONSIDERING SUPPORT FOR OIC COMMUNIQUE ON KOSOVO

REF: A. STATE 22377

[1](#)B. ISLAMABAD 767

Classified By: Anne W. Patterson, Reasons 1.4 (b), (d)

[1](#)1. (C) In a March 6 discussion with MFA Director Afzaal Mahmood, Poloff drew on Ref A points encouraging Pakistan to support language in the OIC Summit communique welcoming Kosovo's independence. Mahmood noted Pakistan was considering such support, but had not yet made a decision. Mahmood once again (Ref B) stressed Pakistan's sympathy and general support for Kosovo's aspirations, but said the government was not yet prepared to take the step of official recognition. Mahmood suggested the Summit would provide Pakistani MFA officials a valuable opportunity for further discussions on the issue. Note: In a February 27 press release, the MFA stated Pakistan wanted to consult allies on the issue of Kosovo independence, especially its OIC partners. End Note.

[1](#)2. (C) Comment. Mahmood indicated that Pakistan's position on Kosovo continues to be influenced by a few concerns, especially the fact that Balochistan nationalists draw parallels between Balochistan and Kosovo. Otherwise, Pakistan would clearly like to join the many Muslim countries that have recognized Kosovo; it is possible the OIC Summit may provide the opportunity - and adequate political cover - to at least move in that direction. End Comment.  
PATTERSON